

I CLAIM:

1. A method of maintaining a predetermined phase relationship between a periodic output signal and a periodic input signal, said method comprising:
 - 5 counting signals that each indicate a phase difference outside said phase relationship between said output signal and said input signal; and
 - shifting the phase of said output signal to reestablish said phase relationship in response to
 - 10 said counting signals reaching a count threshold, said count threshold greater than one.